

## **WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A device that plays sounds and is used with a cellular telephone, the device comprising:
  - a substantially rectangular planar shell having electrical terminals on one side that are electrically connectable to electrical terminals on a cellular telephone; and
  - a sound generating device, located inside the shell and electrically connected to the electrical connectors of the planar shell, comprising memory for storing a sound file, wherein the sound generating device is triggered to play sound associated with the sound file upon detection of a telephone call by the cellular telephone.
2. The device of claim 1, wherein the sound generating device stores a plurality of sound files, and wherein each sound file can be designated as an audio alert signal for the telephone.
3. The device of claim 2, further comprising:
  - an external connector socket on the shell in electrical communication with the sound generating device to provide external access to the plurality of sound files in the sound generating device.
4. The device of claim 2, further comprising:
  - a selector device on the shell for scrolling through the plurality of sound files and designating a sound file to use as an audio alert signal.
5. A device for a cellular telephone that plays sounds, the device comprising:
  - a shell attachable between a cellular telephone body and a cellular telephone battery;

a sound generating device inside the shell and comprising memory for storing a plurality of sound files, wherein the sound generating device is triggered to play sound associated with a sound file upon detection of a telephone call by the cellular telephone;

    an external connector socket on the shell in electrical communication with the sound generating device to provide external access to the plurality of sound files in the sound generating device; and

    a selector device on the shell for designating a sound file to use as an audio alert signal.

6.     A device for a cellular telephone that plays sounds, the device comprising:

    a shell attachable between a cellular telephone body and a cellular telephone battery;

    a sound generating device inside the shell and comprising memory for storing a plurality of sound files, wherein the sound generating device is triggered to play sound associated with a sound file upon detection of a telephone call by the cellular telephone;

    accessing means on the shell in electrical communication with the sound generating device for providing external access to the plurality of sound files in the sound generating device; and

    selecting means on the shell for designating a sound file to use as an audio alert signal.

7.     A cellular telephone system having changeable audio alert signals, the system comprising:

    a cellular telephone body;

    a cellular telephone battery for powering the cellular telephone body; and

an audio signal device, connectable with the cellular telephone body and the cellular telephone battery, including a sound generating device comprising memory for storing a sound file, wherein the sound generating device is triggered to play sound associated with the sound file upon detection of a telephone call by the cellular telephone.

8. The system of claim 7, wherein the sound generating device stores a plurality of sound files that are capable of being edited.

9. The system of claim 8, further comprising:  
an external connector socket on the audio signal device in electrical communication with the sound generating device to provide external access to the plurality of sound files in the sound generating device.

10. The system of claim 8, further comprising:  
a computer system having an electrical plug electrically connected to the sound generating device through the connector socket, for editing the plurality of sound files by adding or deleting from the sound generating device.

11. The system of claim 8, further comprising:  
a selector device on the audio signal device for scrolling through the plurality of sound files and designating a sound file to use as an audio alert signal.

12. A cellular telephone system having changeable audio alert signals, the system comprising:

- a cellular telephone body;
- a cellular telephone battery for powering the cellular telephone body; and
- an audio signal device connectable with the cellular telephone body and the cellular telephone battery and including a sound generating device comprising memory for storing a sound file, wherein the sound generating device stores a plurality of sound files and is triggered to play a sound associated with a designated sound file upon detection of a telephone call by the cellular telephone.

13. The system of claim 12, further comprising:

- an external connector socket on the audio signal device in electrical communication with the sound generating device to provide external access to the plurality of sound files in the sound generating device.

14. The system of claim 12, further comprising:

- a computer system having an electrical plug electrically connected to the sound generating device through the connector socket, for editing the plurality of sound files by adding or deleting from the sound generating device.

15. The system of claim 12, further comprising:

- a selector device on the audio signal device for scrolling through the plurality of sound files and designating a sound file to use as an audio alert signal.

16. A cellular telephone system having changeable audio alert signals, the system comprising:

- a cellular telephone body;
- a cellular telephone battery for powering the cellular telephone body;
- an audio signal device, connectable with the cellular telephone body and the cellular telephone battery, including a sound generating device comprising memory for storing a sound file, wherein the sound generating device stores a plurality of sound files and is triggered to play a sound associated with a designated sound file upon detection of a telephone call by the cellular telephone;
- an external connector socket on the audio signal device in electrical communication with the sound generating device to provide external access to the plurality of sound files in the sound generating device;
- a computer system having an electrical plug electrically connected to the sound generating device through the connector socket, for editing the plurality of sound files by adding or deleting from the sound generating device; and
- a selector device on the audio signal device for designating a sound file to use as an audio alert signal.

17. A cellular telephone system having changeable audio alert signals, the system comprising:

- a cellular telephone body;
- a cellular telephone battery for powering the cellular telephone body;

an audio signal device, connectable with the cellular telephone body and the cellular telephone battery, including a sound generating device comprising memory for storing a sound file, wherein the sound generating device stores a plurality of sound files and is triggered to play a sound associated with a designated sound file upon detection of a telephone call by the cellular telephone;

accessing means on the audio signal device and in electrical communication with the sound generating device for providing external access to the plurality of sound files in the sound generating device;

programming means, electrically connected to the sound generating device through the accessing means, for editing the plurality of sound files by adding or deleting from the sound generating device; and

selecting means on the audio signal device for designating a sound file to use as an audio alert signal.

18. A method of programming designated audio alert signals on a cellular telephone, the method comprising:

providing an audio signal device for use with a cellular telephone, the audio signal device including a programmable sound generating device and an external socket located on an outside surface;

connecting a computer system containing software that can access the sound generating device to the external socket of the audio signal device;

accessing the sound generating device;

adding or deleting a sound file via the computer onto or from the sound generating device, respectively.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the computer system is a personal data assistant.
20. A method of selecting a designated audio alert signal on a cellular telephone, the method comprising:
  - providing an audio signal device for use with a cellular telephone, the audio signal device including a programmable sound generating device and a selector located on an outside surface, wherein the sound generating device includes a plurality of sound files;
  - scrolling through the plurality of sound files with the selector to hear the plurality of sound files;
  - listening to exemplary sounds; and
  - selecting a selected sound from the plurality of sound files when a designated sound file is reached.